[16th March 1954

Renewal of cotton licences.

* 192 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) the estimated annual income of licence fees on account of the annual renewal of cotton licences in the State;

(*b*) how many categories there are in cotton licences;

(*c*) when 'C' class licences expire;

(*d*) when the dealers usually renew their licences;

(*e*) what is the usual procedure for renewing cotton licences and what is the period of grace allowed; and

(*f*) what the punishment is if a dealer in cotton or cloth fails to renew the licence in time?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Rs. 15,000.

" (*b*) Two categories, 'A' class and 'C' class.

" (*c*) 'C' class licences expire on 31st August of each year.

" (*d*) The dealers usually renew their licences one or two months from the commencement of cotton year, i.e., before 31st October.

" (*e*) For renewal of cotton licences, the licensees should send an application in the prescribed form with the original chalan for the remittance of the licence fee of Rs. 25 to the correct head of account, in a Government Treasury or Reserve Bank and with the old licence issued for the previous year. If the application is found to be in order in every particular, the licence is renewed. No specific period of grace has been prescribed.

" (*f*) The dealer in cotton or cloth is liable for the punishments specified in section 7 (1) of the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, for conducting business without a valid licence, which may be fine or imprisonment for three years or both."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" நெசவாளர்களுடைய நிலைமை சீர்கேடாக இருக்கிறது. அதனால் அவர்களுடைய லைசென்ஸ் ஆகஸ்ட் மாதம் முடியும் வரையில் நீடிக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதாகச் சொன்னார்கள். அதனால் ஜனவரி, டிசம்பர் மாதத்திற்குள் அவர்கள் தங்களுடைய லைசென்ஸை புதுப்பித்துக் கொள்ளாவிட்டால் அபராதம் போடுவதோடு கூட காவலில் கூட இருக்கவேண்டும் என்று உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்து இருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் நெசவாளர்கள் அதிக கஷ்டப்படுவார்கள். ஆகையால் அந்த சட்டத்தை திருத்துவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Though licences had to be obtained before a certain period, we found that many were still not having their licences. We issued warnings and I am glad to say that now many of them have already renewed their licences. The question does not arise in view of the fact that most of the applicants have filed their renewal petition in time."